

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): Ultrahigh purity copper having a residual resistance ratio of 38,000 or greater and a purity of 8N or higher, [() excluding gas components of O, C, N, H, S and () P being excluded from a determination of said purity, and a content of impurities in said ultrahigh purity copper excluding said gas components totaling no more than 0.01ppm.

Claim 2 (original): The ultrahigh purity copper according to claim 1, wherein the respective elements of O, C, N, H, S and P as gas components are 1ppm or less.

Claims 3-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): An ultrahigh purity copper having a residual resistance ratio of 38,000 or greater and a purity, excluding gas components of O, C, N, H, S and P, of 8N or higher according to claim 1, prepared by a process comprising the steps of, upon subjecting copper to high purification with an electrolytic method, partitioning an anode and a cathode with an anion exchange membrane, intermittently or continuously extracting an anolyte, pouring in and agitating active carbon to absorb impurities, removing the impurities with the active carbon by filtration, obtaining a high purity copper electrolytic solution, and intermittently or continuously introducing the solution into the cathode side and electrolyzing.

Claim 8 (previously presented): An ultrahigh purity copper according to claim 7, wherein the respective elements of O, C, N, H, S and P as gas components are 1ppm or less.

Claim 9 (new): An ultrahigh purity copper according to claim 2, wherein the content of silver (Ag) in said ultrahigh purity copper is less than 0.005ppm, wherein the content of aluminum (Al) in said ultrahigh purity copper is less than 0.001ppm, and said content of iron (Fe) in said ultrahigh purity copper is less than 0.001ppm.

Claim 10 (new): An ultrahigh purity copper according to claim 1, wherein the content of silver (Ag) in said ultrahigh purity copper is less than 0.005ppm, wherein the content of aluminum (Al) in said ultrahigh purity copper is less than 0.001ppm, and said content of iron (Fe) in said ultrahigh purity copper is less than 0.001ppm.